

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Page 7, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 5 as follows::

The fixed stage 103 has the first and second optical fiber collimators 106 and 107 mounted thereon and is secured at a predetermined position on the linear guide rail 101. The movable stage 102 has the reflecting mirrors 104 and 105 and can be moved along the linear guide rail 101. Furthermore, the fixed stage 103 and the movable stage 102 are provided with a pressing mechanism (not shown) for applying a pressure in a direction perpendicular to the direction of travel of the movable stage 102 along the linear guide rail 101 in order to prevent a gap between the stages 102 and 103 and the engaged linear guide rail 101 ~~engaged therewith~~.